

Application No. 09/475,721

At page 19, line 34 to Page 20 line 4:

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A variety of structural features for the medical article can be introduced into the polymer member with or without a structural basis from the inorganic substrate. Application of the polymer member tends to modify the details of the substrate, for example, by smoothing edges and filling the spaces. Furthermore, the polymer deposition process can be modified to introduce additional structure that does not result from simple application of a polymer material over the surface. Appropriate processes are described further below. Suitable polymer structure for addition to the composite that does not result from the substrate include, for example, barbs, anchors, slots and/or holes for sutures and fasteners, such as pins and buttons, for attachment to a secondary assembly.

In the Claims

Please substitute the following amended claims for those currently pending:

1. A medical device comprising a composite having an inorganic substrate and a polymer covering at least a portion of the substrate, the polymer forming a structure substantially different from the structure of the substrate and the polymer being rigid.

2. The medical device of claim 1 wherein the inorganic substrate comprises metal.

3. The medical device of claim 1 wherein the inorganic substrate comprises a ceramic.